## 2008/2009 Public Beach List - Special Rules

The following pages list public beaches with special rules because of resource needs and/or restrictions on harvest due to health concerns. If a beach is not listed, it is open for recreational harvest year-round unless closed by emergency rule or marine toxins/PSP levels. Not all public beaches have been evaluated by the State Department of Health so the health risk of an unlisted beach many not be known. If you have questions about safety on a beach, call the local county health department or the State Department of Health at (360) 236-3330 or (800) 562-5632. In addition, local health departments may have posted beaches within their jurisdictions that are not listed here - look for warning signs. Refer to the 2008/2009 Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet for more detailed information on daily bag limits, size restrictions and bonus limits. See the 2008/2009 Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet for Marine Area maps, marine preserves and conservation areas; contact the State Department of Health or the WDFW website at <a href="http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg">http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg</a> for beach locations.

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**NOTE:** Emergency rule changes may occur throughout the year and will supersede the rules shown in this chart. Changes can be found by contacting the Shellfish Rule Change Hotline, Fish Program statewide customer service (360) 902-2700, and are also available on the WDFW website: **http://wdfw.wa.gov** 

WDFW SHELLFISH RULE CHANGE HOTLINE: 1-866-880-5431

DOH SHELLFISH SAFETY HOTLINE 1-800-562-5632

**KNOW YOUR DAILY LIMITS!** 

FILL ALL HOLES!

SHUCK ALL OYSTERS AND LEAVE SHELLS ON THE BEACH WHERE YOU FOUND THEM!

Two different state agencies are responsible for two different types of shellfish closures. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is responsible for conservation closures, which are listed in the Public Beach List above. These closures are designed to protect and conserve existing shellfish populations. Washington Department of Health (DOH) is responsible for human health related closures, which result from PSP/ASP, *Vibrio* bacteria or pollution. These closures are in response to potentially life-threatening environmental conditions. It is possible that a beach will be "open" by DOH and "closed" by WDFW at the same time. In these cases, it is illegal to harevest clams and oysters. It is also possible that a beach is "open" by WDFW and "closed" by DOH at the same time. In these cases, harvesting shellfish may put you at risk for serious illness or death. ALWAYS BE SURE TO CHECK BOTH THE CURRENT WDFW SEASON AND THE DOH HEALTH CLOSURE STATUS BEFORE HARVESTING ON A PUBLIC BEACH.

Razor clam seasons occur only after clam samples have been tested by Washington Department of Health (DOH) and are found to be safe for human consumption.